

Appendix F

Visual Resource Management Classes and Acres by Alternative of Inventoried Values

Class I (1) Objective – The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.

Examples of restrictions: No surface occupancy or use, safety or maintenance structures made of native material, limits on facility heights, lighting limitations, etc.

Class II (2) Objective – The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Examples of restrictions: No surface occupancy, use limited to temporary surface disturbing activities such as timber harvest and outfitter camps, restrictions on facility site locations and heights, lighting limitations, etc.

Class III (3) Objective – The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention, but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Examples of restrictions: Controlled surface use by evaluating and limiting facility location, require camouflage or earth tone paint, timing limitations, lighting limitations, etc.

Class IV (4) Objective – The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance and repeating the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture in the natural characteristic landscape.

Examples of restrictions: Controlled surface use by facility location limitations, requirement of camouflage or earth tone paint, lighting restrictions, etc.

Acres by Alternative of Inventoried Values

The Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) class is one of the main components of VRM. BLM-administered lands are placed into one of four VRI classes that represent the relative value of the visual resources and provide the basis for considering visual values in the resource management planning process. VRI class I is assigned to areas with a special designation where a natural landscape is desired. VRI classes II, III, and IV are assigned based on a combination of scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance-zone overlays to assign the proper class.

For the planning area there 313 acres in VRI class I, 10,630 acres in VRI class II, 10,691 acres in VRI class III, and 252,535 acres in VRI class IV. The acres (approximate) by rating value are:

<i>Scenic Quality Rating</i>	<i>Acres</i>
A	4,427
B	58,828
C	211,095

<i>Sensitivity Level</i>	<i>Acres</i>
High	37,985
Moderate	203,677
Low	32,508

<i>Distance Zones</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Foreground/ Middleground	89,612
Background	155,500
Seldom Seen	29,057

The values incorporated in determining VRI class are displayed below by VRM class by alternative in acres.

Scenic Quality Rating by VRM by Alternative (Acres)												
	<i>Alternative A</i>			<i>Alternative B</i>			<i>Alternative C</i>			<i>Alternative D</i>		
	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>
A	1,204	0	0	1,204	0	3,034	4,247	0	0	1204	3043	0
B	0	4,876	530	313	5,168	53,346	7,332	40,225	11,271	313	7202	51,312
C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	141,596	69,499	0	0	211,095

Sensitivity Level Rating by VRM by Alternative (Acres)												
	<i>Alternative A</i>			<i>Alternative B</i>			<i>Alternative C</i>			<i>Alternative D</i>		
	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>
Hi	0	0	313	313	0	37,671	2,620	6,917	28,447	313	2,600	35,072
Mod	1,204	0	0	1204	0	202,473	2,555	16,804	34,316	1,204	246	202,227
Low	0	4,876	217	0	5,168	27,340	6,403	8,098	18,007	0	7,400	25,108

Distance Zone Rating by VRM by Alternative (Acres)												
	<i>Alternative A</i>			<i>Alternative B</i>			<i>Alternative C</i>			<i>Alternative D</i>		
	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>	<i>VRM II</i>	<i>VRM III</i>	<i>VRM IV</i>
F/M	1,204	0	512	1,517	0	88,094	5,263	49,603	34,744	1,517	2,847	85,247
BG	0	0	0	0	0	155,500	0	122,919	32,580	0	0	155,500
SS	0	4,876	18	0	5,168	23,889	6,315	9,297	13,445	0	7,398	21,659